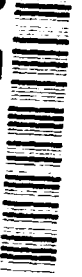


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THIANTHRENE-BASED POLY(BENZOXAZOLE)S

Randy A. Johnson and Lon J. Maurias*

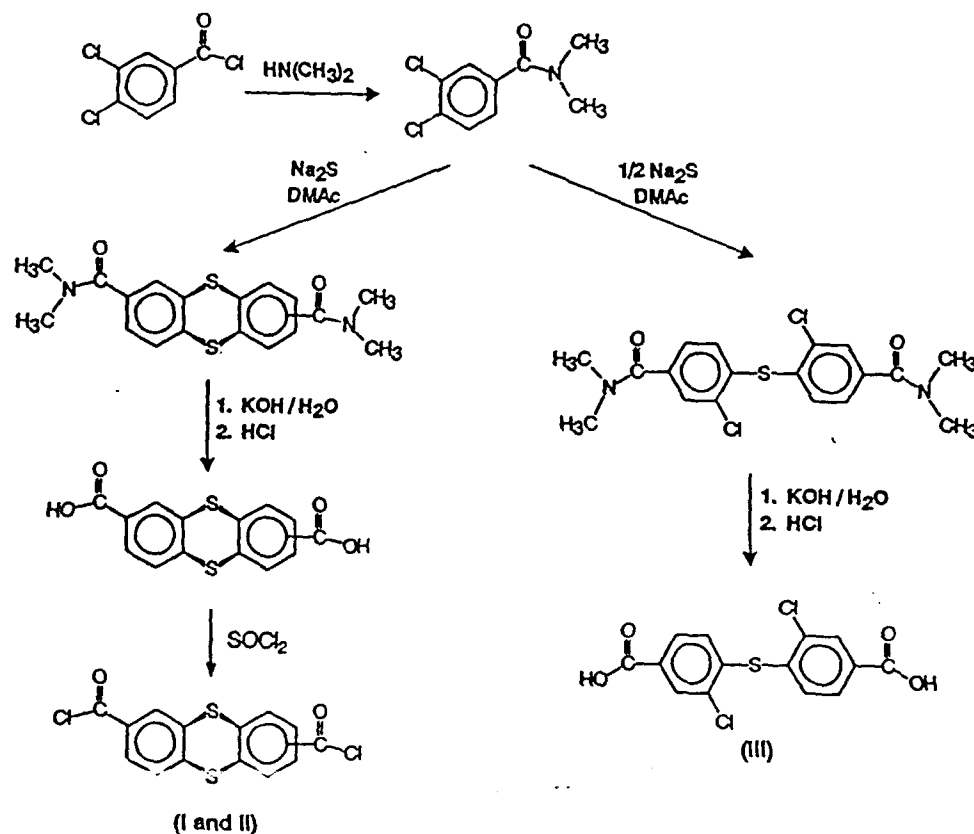
Department of Polymer Science
University of Southern Mississippi
Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0076

INTRODUCTION

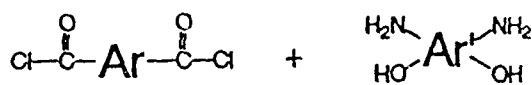
Poly(benzoxazole)s (PBOs) are a class of rigid-rod polymers that are known to have good thermal stability, high mechanical properties, and environmental resistance. Processing of PBOs is difficult since they have low solubility, high glass transition temperatures, and decompose before their melting points.

This study is focused on improving the processibility of poly(benzoxazole)s by increasing their solubility while maintaining good thermal stability. With this goal in mind, we synthesized thianthrene-based PBOs from thianthrene-2,7- and -2,8-dicarbonyl chlorides with commercially available bis-o-aminophenols. Polymers were prepared in poly(phosphoric acid) at 90-200 °C. Transparent PBO films were casted from polymerization solutions and m-cresol depending on solubility. Thermal analysis has shown 10% weight loss in air at > 500 °C. DMA has shown good mechanical properties with a transition > 400 °C for polymer I-HAB.

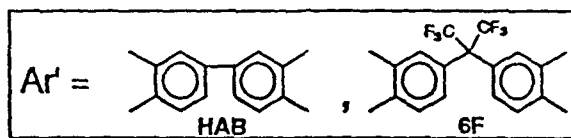
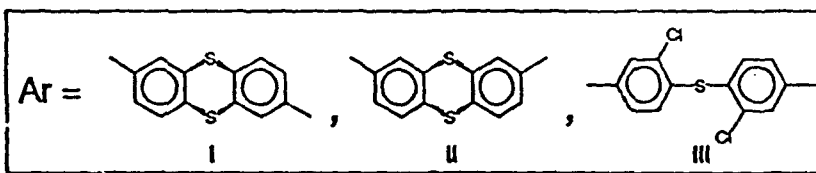
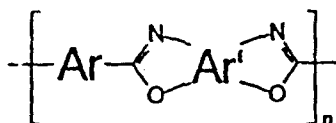
Synthesis of Thianthrene-2,7- and -2,8-dicarbonyl chlorides



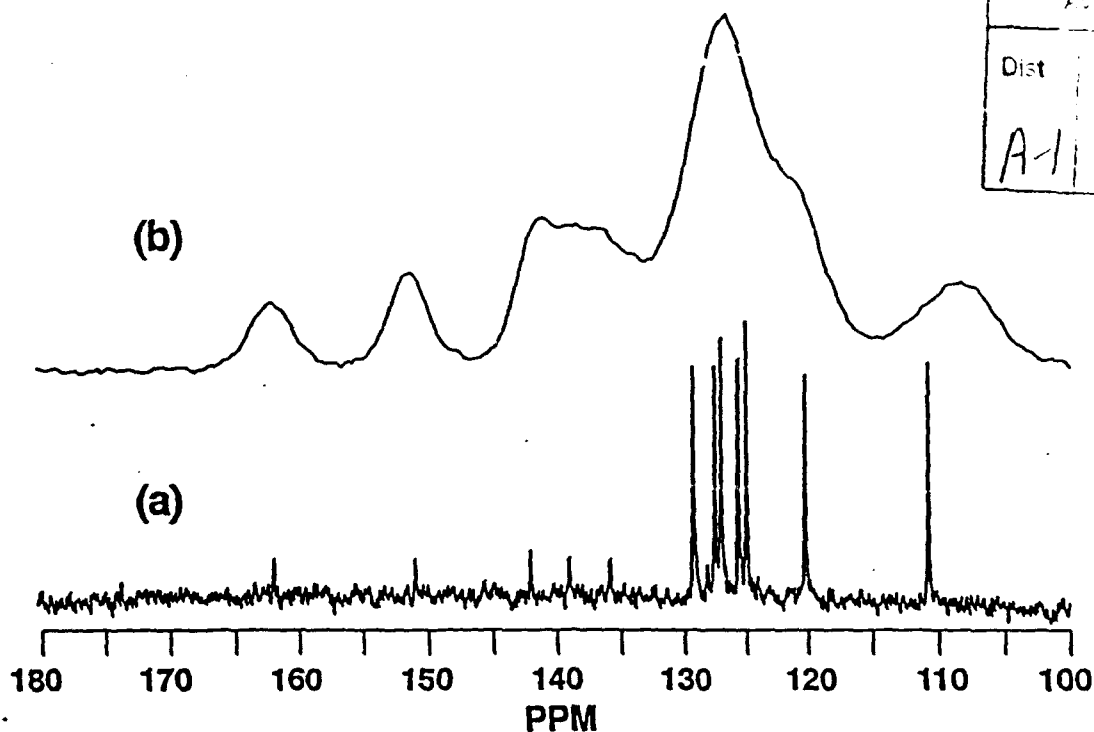
Poly(benzoxazole) synthesis



PPA
90-200 °C



Accession No.	
NTIS	✓
DTIC	✓
Unavail.	
Justification	
By	
Distribution	
Availability	
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¹³C NMR of (a) 2,7-bis(2-benzoxazolyl)thianthrene (model) and (b) thianthrene-biphenyl PBO (I - HAB) in CDCl₃ and solid state, respectively.

POLYMERS	H ₂ SO ₄	MeSO ₃ H	m-cresol	CHCl ₃	THF	dichloro- benzene	MeNO ₂ ^a AlCl ₃
I - HAB	b	b	—	—	—	—	→
I - 6F	++	++	++	—	—	→	++
II - HAB	b	++	—	—	—	—	++
II - 6F	++	++	++	—	—	→	++
III - HAB	++	++	—	—	—	—	++
III - 6F	++	++	++	→	—	++	++

^a 18 wt% AlCl₃.

b Partially soluble.

++ Soluble at ambient temperature.

→ Soluble hot.

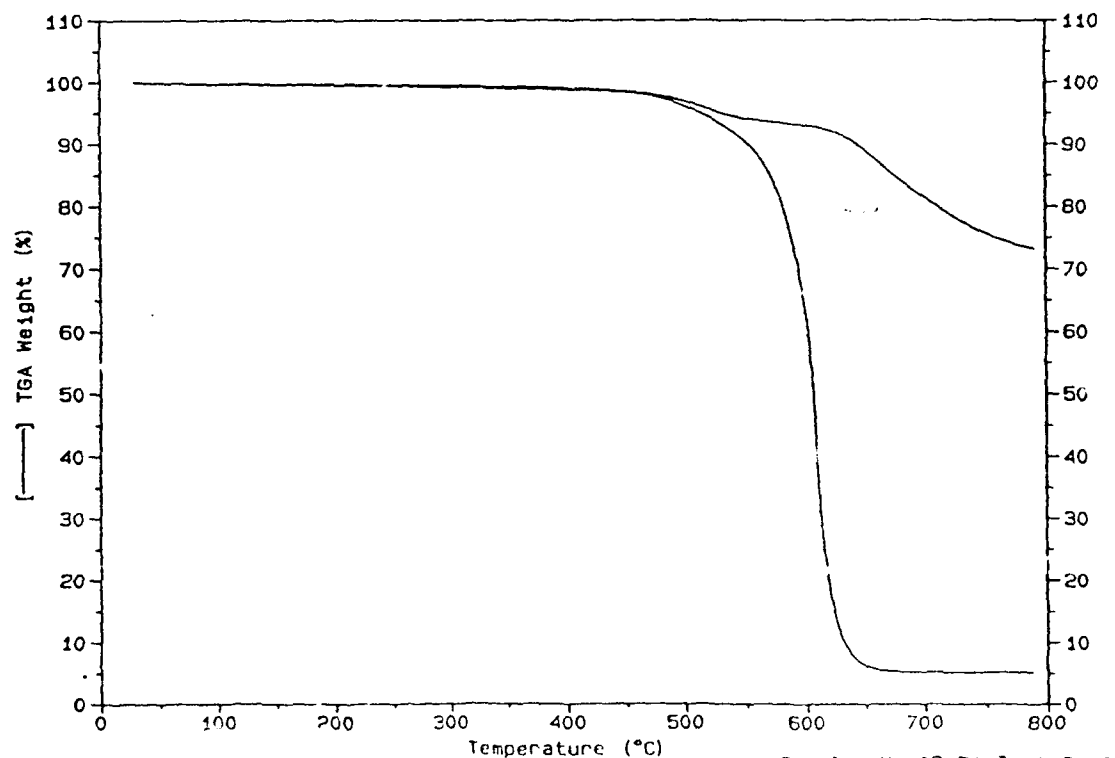
— Insoluble.

POLYMERS	η_{sp} (dL/g)	TGA ^b (°C)	
		onset temp. (N ₂ / air atm.)	10% wt. loss (N ₂ / air atm.)
I - HAB	—	451 / 450	643 / 551
I - 6F	0.92 ^a	478 / 455	533 / 528
II - HAB	—	462 / 391	655 / 590
II - 6F	1.51 ^a	435 / 442	545 / 526
III - HAB	—	473 / 459	533 / 511
III - 6F	0.88 ^a	453 / 449	500 / 488

^a Measured in m-cresol at 30 °C.

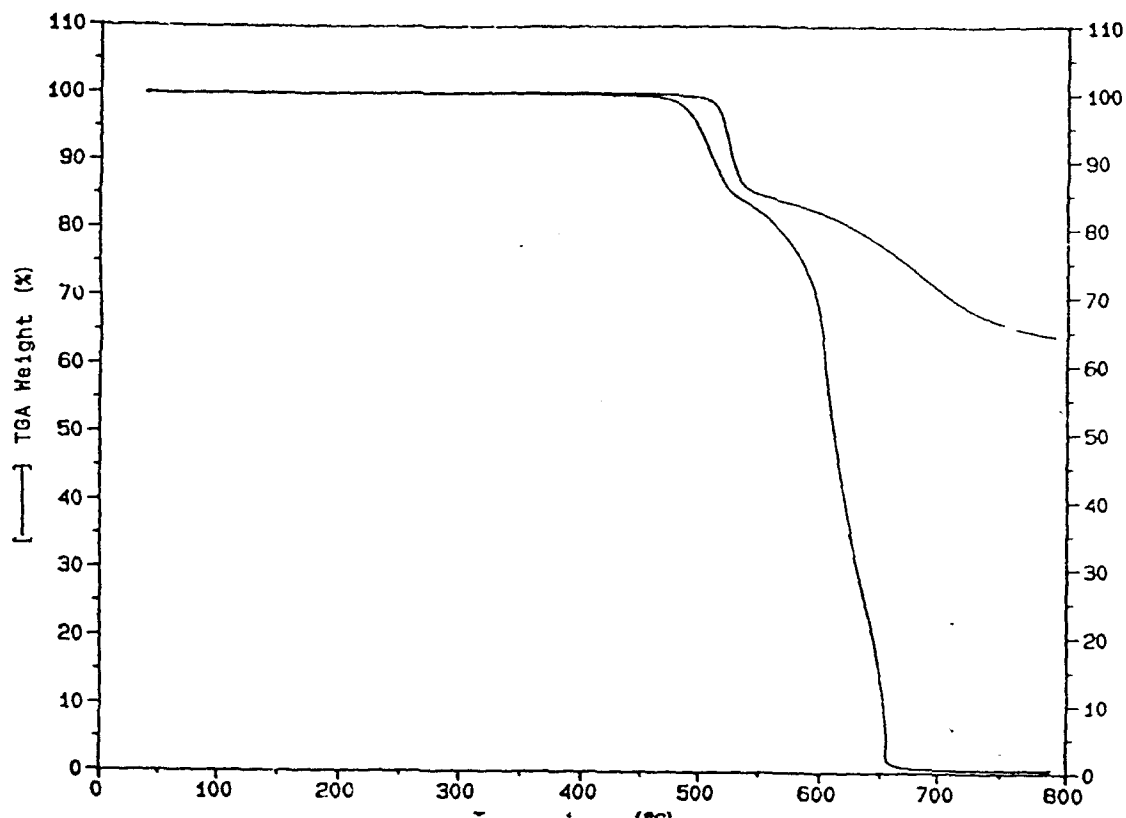
^b Measured at heating rate of 10 °C/min.

TGA of PBO I-HAB in nitrogen (upper trace) and air (lower trace).



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TGA of PBO III-HAB in nitrogen (upper trace) and air (lower trace).



DMA of PBO I-HAB.

